

HEAD OF UNITED FRUIT FIRM DIES

Andrew W. Preston Gained Fortune By Bringing Ba- nanas To U. S.

Boston, Sept. 27 —Andrew W. Preston, head of the United Fruit company, who died at his summer home at Swampscott last night, gained a fortune for himself and others by bringing bananas to this country on a big scale.

Although others had imported the fruit in a small way previously, Preston popularized the banana and then brought it here in bunches that filled ships. The result was the organization of the United Fruit company, which comprises the bulk of the tropical fruit trade of the country, and of the United Steamship company, which operates one of the country's largest steamship fleets.

The United Fruit company issued a statement that the death of Mr. Preston would cause no change in the company's policies.

In his seventy-ninth year, the United Fruit company head was also president of the Revere Sugar Refining company, the Central American railroad companies, the Tropical Radio company and the Banana Specialty company, and was an officer in several other concerns.